

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-13 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

March 26, 2002

By

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5. The oligonucleotide of claim 4, wherein the oligonucleotide is 5' [2'-chloro-7'-phenyl-1,4-dichloro-6-carboxyfluorescein (VIC)]- CCG GGA GAG CCA TAG TGG TCT GCG- (SEQ ID NO. 7) [6-carboxytetramethylrhodamine (TAMRA)] 3' or 5' [6-carboxyfluorescein(FAM)]- TTG GCA ACA GTG GCA TGC ACC G - (SEQ ID NO. 8) [6-carboxytetramethylrhodamine (TAMRA)]3'.